

**BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING  
EDUCATION/LICENSING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE:** March 10, 2010

**TIME:** 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Department of Consumer Affairs  
1625 North Market Blvd.  
Hearing Room S-102  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
916.322.3350

**PRESENT:** Catherine M. Todero, PhD, RN, Chair  
Darlene Bradley, PhDc, MSN, CNS, CCRN, CEN, FAEN, RN  
Jeannine Graves, MPA, BSN, RN, OCN, CNOR  
Kathrine M. Ware, MSN, RN, ANP-C

**STAFF PRESENT:** Louise Bailey, MEd, RN, EO; Miyo Minato, MN, RN, NEC; Katie Daugherty, MN, RN, NEC; Kelly McHan, MPH, RN, NEC; Carol Mackay, MN, RN, NEC; Leslie Moody, MAEd, MSN, RN, NEC; Janette Wackerly, MBA, RN, NEC; Bobbi Pierce, Lead – Licensing Program; Julie Campbell-Warnock, Research Program Specialist.

**Dr. Catherine Todero called the meeting to order at 1030 AM. Committee members introduced themselves.**

**9.0 ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**  
**January 5, 2011 minutes**

**ACTION: Accept the Minutes of January 5, 2011**  
**M/S/C: Bradley/Ware**  
**Public input: None**

**9.1 RATIFY MINOR CURRICULUM REVISION**

- 9.1.1 California State University, Fullerton, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program, Entry Level Master's Degree Option
- 9.1.2 Holy Names University LVN to Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.3 Humboldt State University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.4 Loma Linda University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.5 University of California, Los Angeles, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program and Entry Level Master's Degree Nursing Program Option
- 9.1.6 United States University Entry Level Master's Degree Program
- 9.1.7 MiraCosta College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.8 Pacific Union College Associate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.9 University of Phoenix Family Nurse Practitioner Program

**Progress Report:**

- 9.1.10 Humboldt State University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program
- 9.1.11 Simpson University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program

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9.1.12 Riverside Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program

L. Moody, NEC, presented this report.

**ACTION: Ratify Minor Curriculum Revisions.**

**M/S/C: Graves/Ware**

**Public input: None**

## **9.2 MAJOR CURRICULUM REVISION**

### **9.2.1 California State University (CSU), Sacramento, Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Option (ASBSN)**

**Carolynn M. Goetze, PhD, RN, Program Director and Chair for the Division of Nursing, and Ann Stoltz, PhD, RN, the designated ASBSN Program Coordinator for the CSU Sacramento campus, represented the program.**

K. Daugherty, NEC, presented this report. A brief history of the CSU Sacramento program was provided, which included enrollment pattern and NCLEX-RN pass rate history which has been consistently above threshold. CSU Sacramento and CSU Stanislaus are now requesting a major curriculum change for each campus to be able to offer a collaborative fifteen-month ASBSN option through each institution's self support contract education division. As a collaborative program option, ASBSN students at each campus will enroll in five "shared" theory courses on the other campus, and then transfer the five courses back to their home campus for BRN Content Required for Licensure and degree credit. The remainder of program courses will be taken through their home campus including all clinical courses. The BSN degree will be awarded by each home campus. Each campus plans to enroll 20-30 students in the proposed 15 months collaborative ASBSN option once a year beginning in August or December 2011. Revenues from student tuition and fees will be the primary source of funding for each campus. Explanatory documents provided included a detailed proposal with information regarding how the proposed collaborative arrangement complies with all BRN regulations/policies/procedures, program budget, and curriculum content and delivery plan.

All aspects of both programs were evaluated by staff of both schools, and it was determined that program philosophies, conceptual frameworks, learning outcomes, course content, program policies/procedures, course syllabi, course expectations, methods of evaluation and instructional delivery methods are closely aligned and congruent thus making a collaborative arrangement between the two campuses feasible. Appropriate evaluation strategies have been developed to coordinate and monitor course performance/learning outcomes in the ten "shared" courses.

Identified opportunities associated with this collaboration include:

- An additional 40 - 60 students admitted each year resulting in 40 - 60 new baccalaureate prepared registered nurses per year
- Sharing of limited faculty resources
- Utilizing innovation to transform nursing education
- Creating a model program for collaboration that can be replicated
- Increasing local health care agency/education relationships
- Generating revenue producing options to augment traditional funding sources.

**Members of the Committee asked for additional information regarding various aspects of the revision proposal to which the following clarifying responses were provided by program representatives:**

- **Clinical placements are believed to be adequate to accommodate additional students.**
- **Faculty shortages that resulted in CSU Sacramento's 2007 decision to suspend offering an accelerated program do not present an obstacle at this time. Adequate faculty is available for program delivery, in part due to the sharing of faculty with CSU Stanislaus.**

- **Program revision approval by Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) was initially budgeted for but later determined to not be necessary per the WASC criteria.**
- **The planned August start will avoid conflict with other nursing student cohorts regarding clinical placements.**
- **The liaison role will include serving as a link for students of one school when in courses taught by the other school, and will also be the link between faculty and the coordinator across the two schools. Faculty from both schools will regularly meet to align syllabi and instructional methodology and perform review of curriculum for shared courses. The problem-solving chain will be progressively the course faculty (for students) then (for faculty or students) the program liaison, coordinator and program director for the school to which the student/faculty is primarily assigned.**
- **The actual change in units from the generic program results from a reduction of one unit of nursing courses and that students will not have to complete additional general education units for graduation as they will have previously earned a Baccalaureate degree. This allows for program completion within fifteen months.**

**ACTION:** Approve the major curriculum revision for the California State University, Sacramento, Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Option (collaborative with CSU Stanislaus), with requirement that the program provide additional documentation to the ELC, prior to the April 13, 2011 Board meeting, and which indicates the school has initiated the process of obtaining approval from the Chancellor's office, the Western Association of Schools and colleges does not require additional curriculum or program approval, and that the additional students can be accommodated at the intended clinical facilities without displacing existing students from this or other programs.

**M/S/C:** Todero/Ware

**Public input:** None

### **9.2.2 California State University, Stanislaus, Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Option**

**Dr. Margaret Hodge, Director of the School of Nursing, represented the program.**

K. McHan, NEC, presented this report. A brief history of the CSU Stanislaus nursing program was presented, including NCLEX-RN exam pass rates and results of the most recent approval visit which resulted in no findings. It was reported that the collaborative program faculty will utilize instructional delivery methodologies including face to face, online, videostreaming, iMEET, and Blackboard distance education technologies. The program coordinators and faculty will work under the direction and supervision of the program director on each respective home campus. There are adequate clinical facilities and placements available to support the planned program of instruction and anticipated enrollment pattern.

The ASBSN will be offered at CSU Stanislaus' extended campus site in Stockton. Plans to renovate and customize the site for the ASBSN include the addition of an eight-bed skills/health assessment lab, two-bed simulation lab, three smart classrooms, student library, faculty offices, administrative offices, and technology support for delivery of instruction (diagram was provided in agenda packet materials). Plans have been approved and funding obtained from the Stockton site authority and the Chancellor's office. Bids have been secured and renovation will begin when the program receives BRN approval.

The NEC will conduct site visits prior to program implementation to verify readiness of the extended campus site. An interim visit will be scheduled as the first cohort of students are completing the last 10-week term. If no areas of non-compliance or issues/concerns are identified, the ASBSN will be visited on the same schedule as the traditional BSN degree option.



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**Members of the Committee asked for additional information regarding various aspects of the program's proposal to which the following clarifying responses were provided by the program representative:**

- **The accelerated option is a new program for CSU Stanislaus.**
- **Construction of new facilities at the Stockton site will begin upon receipt of BRN approval for the program.**
- **The apparent variation in fees between CSU Sacramento and CSU Stanislaus is due to the inclusion of Assessment Technologies Incorporated (instructional materials) fees being included for CSU Stanislaus in the program fee whereas they are a separate fee in CSU Sacramento's fee structure.**
- **Faculty competence in the area of distance education delivery will be guaranteed by prior experience of faculty and additional training.**
- **Stockton area healthcare facilities have provided student clinical placement opportunities which will be beneficial to those facilities in meeting future staffing needs as well as meeting future staffing needs for a new correctional facility hospital that is soon to be built.**
- **Students will be required to travel out of the area for pediatric clinical rotations.**

**ACTION:** Approve the major curriculum revision for the California State University, Stanislaus, Accelerated Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program Option (collaborative with CSU Sacramento) with requirement that the program provide additional documentation to the ELC, prior to the April 13, 2011 Board meeting, that indicates the school is in process of obtaining approval from the Chancellor's office, the Western Association of Schools and colleges does not require additional curriculum approval, and that the additional students can be accommodated at the intended clinical facilities without displacing existing students from this or other programs.

**M/S/C: Ware/Bradley**

**Public input: None**

### **9.3 CONTINUE APPROVAL OF PRELICENSURE NURSING PROGRAM**

#### **9.3.1 National University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program**

**The program director, Dr. Mary McHugh, School of Health and Human Services-Nursing Chair, represented the program.**

L. Moody, NEC, presented this report. On August 11, 2010, a program visit was made to National University, Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program – Fresno campus in response to concerns submitted by students to the BRN. The program was found to have six areas of Non-compliances and three Recommendations were made. The program submitted a plan of correction on October 3, 2010, reflecting significant action had been taken in some areas and additional action was planned to address the remaining areas of noncompliance. The findings of the August visit to the Fresno campus and the program's response were reported to the Education Licensing Committee at the November 16, 2010 meeting and to the full Board at the November 17, 2010 meeting at which time the board deferred action to continue approval of National University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing program, directed that monitoring of the program's progress in implementing their plan of correction at the Fresno campus continue, that a visit be scheduled and conducted at the Los Angeles campus of the program, and that the program submit a progress report to the ELC at the March, 2011 meeting.

Nursing Education Consultants (NEC) Leslie Moody and Miyo Minato conducted a visit to the National University, Los Angeles campus on December 16, 2010. Findings of concern at this campus of the program were similar to those at the Fresno campus. These areas of concern were reviewed with the program director. NECs advised that these issues need to be resolved without delay and a progress report reflecting complete implementation of all corrective actions for the program at all locations should be submitted no later than January 31, 2011. In January 2011, Dr. Mary McHugh was newly

appointed as director of the program. Prior to January 31, a progress report was submitted by the program that described a plan with actions implemented which corrected all areas of Non-compliance and Recommendation stemming from visits to both the Fresno and Los Angeles campuses.

**In response to Committee questions regarding faculty retention, Dr. McHugh responded that it is sometimes difficult due to curriculum revisions that are needed. Evaluation of the curriculum is currently underway to identify where revisions are needed. When asked about program mechanisms for students to effect problem-solving, Dr. McHugh assured that students are now thoroughly advised regarding this issue and that she has a very strong and available presence to students at all three campuses of the program. The Committee clarified that award of continuing approval status applies only to the existing program and enrollment and does not address permission for expansion of sites or enrollment. The Committee extended an invitation to the National University students to attend BRN Board and Committee meetings including Diversion/Discipline Committee which can be beneficial to students' forming an understanding of professional practice.**

**ACTION: Continue approval of National University Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Program with Nursing Education Consultant to perform a follow-up site visit to the program's Fresno campus in April 2011 to validate the program's continued compliance.**

**M/S/C: Ware/Bradley**

**Public input: None**

#### **9.4 MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING FOR CALIFORNIA APPROVED REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAMS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OUT-OF-STATE ONLINE REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAMS**

C. Mackay, NEC presented this report. The purpose of placing this item on the Education Licensing Committee agenda was to review the history of these partnerships, the BRN legal authority for approving a partnership, the requirements for a partnership and the continuation of these partnerships in California. Background was provided about schools operating under the partnership model including Sonoma State University/Indiana State University (currently operating) and the San Diego State/University of Oklahoma (being phased out). The ELC was informed that there are two new schools proposing to replicate this program delivery model by establishing a partnership through a written agreement - Memorandum of Understanding - with a California BRN approved pre-licensure registered nursing program. Information was presented regarding the BRN legal authority, requirements of the memorandums of understanding and clinical facility agreements. At this time, the BRN Partnership Model was presented to the Board for review of the legal authority for the partnership model in California, and to determine whether out-of-state nursing program partnerships should be continued.

**C. Mackay clarified for the Committee that this issue was only pertinent to prelicensure nursing programs. Louise Bailey, Executive Officer, explained that it is important to have uniform requirement standards regarding this issue so that they can be understood by all school applicants.**

**In response to questions from the Committee, Dr. Liz Close of Sonoma State University offered the following information about their partnership program with Indiana State University:**

- **Students are simultaneously enrolled in both universities and clinical experiences are completed concurrently with the complementary theory courses.**
- **Advantages of the program include attraction of a culturally diverse student population (50% of students are other than Caucasian), provision of an opportunity for Licensed Vocational Nurses to progress to Registered Nursing, and delivery of the program without impact to the California state budget.**
- **Outcomes are difficult to measure yet as only eleven graduates have taken the NCLEX-RN with a result of eight passing and three failing.**

**Dr. Rob Fast of the University of California, Los Angeles, where an out of state partnership is being considered, was accompanied by representatives from Marian University and Orbis. They responded to the Committee that the program under consideration for development by them would be an accelerated BSN program with the intent of filling the gap created by the dissolution of the Oklahoma State University partnership, but that they have not yet sought or received approval from The Regents of the University of California as exploration and development is still in the very preliminary stages. Representatives reported that the Oklahoma State University program served approximately 400 students who experienced an NCLEX-RN pass rate of 97% and a high rate of post-graduation employment.**

**Public input: None**

#### **9.5 ACCREDITATION OF PRELICENSURE NURSING PROGRAMS UPDATE**

L. Moody, NEC presented this report. The committee was informed that scheduling of the public forums to gather stakeholder opinion regarding this issue has been completed. Dates, times and city locations of the public forums were recited, and the Committee was advised that public notice would soon be posted on the BRN website and mailed out per usual BRN procedures.

**Public input: None**

#### **9.6 2009-10 REGIONAL ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORTS**

J. Campbell-Warnock, Research Program Specialist presented this report. The Regional Annual School Reports present the historical analyses of nursing program data from the 2000-2001 BRN Annual School Survey through the 2009-2010 survey for the nine economic regions in California. Each region has a separate report. All data are presented in aggregate form, and describe the overall trends in these regions over the specified periods. The data items addressed include the numbers of nursing programs, enrollments, completions, retention rates, student and faculty census information, simulation centers and student access to clinical sites and experiences. The nine regions include: (1) Northern California, (2) Northern Sacramento Valley, (3) Greater Sacramento, (4) Bay Area, (5) San Joaquin Valley, (7) Central Coast, (8) Southern California I (Los Angeles and Ventura Counties), (9) Southern California II (Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties), and (10) Southern Border Region. Counties within each region are detailed in the corresponding report. The Central Sierra (Region 6) does not have any nursing programs and was, therefore, not included in the analyses. The San Francisco Bay Area Report (Region 4) was presented as a sample. Final reports for all nine regions will be made available to the public on the BRN website.

**Dr. Todero suggested that future surveys should include asking more specific questions regarding denials of clinical placements for students, to explore whether the denial was permanent or temporary and whether the denial was absolute or offering an alternative schedule to historically held days and times.**

**Public input: None**

#### **9.7 LICENSING PROGRAM REPORT**

B. Pierce, Lead Licensing Program Analyst presented this report.

Program Update:

The Board of Registered Nursing Licensing Program has been processing applications for January graduates wanting to take the NCLEX-RN. Schools are able to provide the Board with information for their graduates a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the graduation date but some schools are not submitting documentation until after the graduation date. 145 applications from new graduates were processed between February 1, 2011 and February 22, 2011.

The Licensing Program will be facing challenges this spring due to the following vacancies: three Key Data Operator (KDO) positions; one Staff Services Analyst (SSA) position and the Program



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Manager position. The KDO positions are critical in the processing of the new applications. The KDOs create the new files that are then directed to the Evaluators for processing. The main focus of the SSA position that will be vacant is the evaluation of internationally educated applicants, and the person in this position is cross-trained to assist with other evaluations. Before the increase in new graduate applications begins in April, it will be necessary to determine how the existing duties can be redirected to continue processing and evaluating applications efficiently and not create a backlog.

Statistics:

The Department of Consumer Affairs, in conjunction with the Board, continues to provide statistical reports to the Governor's Office and the State and Consumer Services Agency on a monthly basis for the Licensing and Job Creation Report. This project has been on-going since January 2010 and the Board has been an active participant in meeting the goals of the program to contribute towards California's job growth through expeditious and efficient processing of pending professional examination and licensing applications. The statistics for the last two fiscal years and the first six and one-half months of Fiscal Year 2010/11 were presented. A decrease in the number of applications for examination, endorsement and repeaters during the last two fiscal years was noted. It is believed this is due to the economic slowdown and the Board's no longer accepting applications without a United States Social Security Number.

Issues:

- Credits given for entire programs such as vocational nursing, nursing assistant and MD level to meet RN course work requirements: the student completes minimal theoretical and clinical course work prior to receiving the degree as a Registered Nurse.
- Modular distance learning programs offering self-directed and/or independent study: these students have only occasional interaction with an assigned tutor, and how, when and where the clinical practice is completed is questionable. .
- Increased scrutiny of documents from a school in Indonesia: the education is being validated by a former school official who has not been affiliated with the school for at least three years.
- Continue to receive questionable transcripts and nursing licenses from the Philippines.
- Continue to receive applications from students who attended on-line programs offering degrees based on work and/or experiences, with a degree awarded in as little as 7 days: a transcript for an applicant who completed one of these programs was sent from a company based in the United Arab Emirates.

**The Committee commented on the high-level of detail and expertise that are being exercised in the performance of this service and complimented the Licensing staff for their work.**

**Public input: None**

## 9.7 NCLEX-RN PASS RATES UPDATE

K. Daugherty, NEC, presented this report. The Board of Registered Nursing receives quarterly reports from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) about the NCLEX-RN test results by quarter and with an annual perspective. The following tables show this information for 12 months and by each quarter.

### NCLEX RESULTS – FIRST TIME CANDIDATES

January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010\*/\*\*

JURISDICTION	TOTAL TAKING TEST	PERCENT PASSED %
California	11,371	87.53
United States and Territories	140,883	87.42

**CALIFORNIA NCLEX RESULTS – FIRST TIME CANDIDATES**  
**By Quarters and January 1, 1010-December 31, 2010\*/\*\***

1/01/10- 3/01/10		4/01/10- 6/30/10**		7/01/10- 9/30/10		10/1/10- 12/31/10		10/01/10- 12/31/10	
# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass	# cand.	% pass
3,840	89.79	2,114	89.92	4,423	86.03	994	80.38	11,371	87.53

\*Includes (9), (6, (6)& (2) "re-entry" candidates.

\*\* 2010 NCLEX-RN Test Plan and a higher passing standard (-0.16 logits) were implemented April 1, 2010.

The Nursing Education Consultants monitor the NCLEX results of their assigned programs. Current procedure provides that after each academic year (July 1 – June 30), if there is substandard performance (below 75% pass rate for first time candidates annually), the NEC requests the program director submit a report outlining the program's action plan to address this substandard performance. Should the substandard performance continue in the second academic year, an interim visit is scheduled and a written report is submitted to the Education/Licensing Committee. If there is no improvement in the next quarter, a full approval visit is scheduled within six months and a report is made to the Education /Licensing Committee following the full approval visit.


**Public input: None**

**9.9 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**


**Public input: None**

**Meeting adjourned at 1245.**

Submitted by:

  
Leslie A. Moody, MSN, MAEd, RN  
Nursing Education Consultant

Accepted by:

  
Catherine M. Todero, PhD, RN  
Chairperson